

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 12 through page 3, line 4, with the paragraph shown below:

Such a design of the blade holder has the disadvantage that the aforementioned kind of cutting force control is not sufficiently precise because of the employed pressure spring having own in tolerances and non-constant spring characteristic lines. When in the frame of such a cutting machine a plurality of such blade holders is used, a pneumatic drive pressure adjusted identically for each blade holder and the advancing piston does not accordingly produce an identical cutting force because, as a function of the respectively lifting position of the circular blade, respectively, of the lifting piston rod and as a function of the spring tolerances and the spring characteristic line of the respective pressure spring, a spring force of a different magnitude counteracts the pneumatic drive pressure acting in the direction of the cutting position of the circular blade.